Updated June 2023

By the Numbers
Energy Technology Engineering Center

The Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) is located approximately 29 miles northwest of Los Angeles, California, in the southeast corner of Ventura County. The SSFL occupies 2,850 acres of hilly terrain, with approximately 1,100 feet of topographic relief near the crest of the Simi Hills. Starting in 1948, activities at SSFL included research, development, and testing of liquid-fueled rocket engines and associated components, such as pumps and valves. DOE leased Area IV, which was designated as the Energy Technology Engineering Center (ETEC).

Nuclear research and development activities in Area IV increased rapidly from 1953 into the late 1960s. After that time, these activities steadily declined. Beginning in the 1990s, activities in Area IV focused on decontamination and decommissioning of former nuclear facilities.

DOE published a Final Environmental Impact Statement in December 2018 that analyzed a full range of alternatives for site cleanup. In September 2019, DOE issued a Record of Decision (ROD) to demolish the 18 DOE buildings on site and dispose of debris at appropriate waste disposition facilities. DOE released a groundwater ROD in 2020, and next steps included plans for monitoring and treatment of groundwaters. DOE is committed to a cleanup at the ETEC site that is protective for the public and the environment.

In 1988

all DOE sponsored research within Area IV ceased and DOE shifted its focus to facility decontamination, decommissioning, and cleanup.

Between 2022-2032

EM will initiate final groundwater treatment approaches, complete a Record of Decision for soils cleanup, and begin soil remediation.

90

The Santa Susana Field Laboratory is divided into four administrative areas. **DOE conducted energy-related research and development on 90 acres of Area IV.**

2021

EM completed the demolition of all remaining DOE-owned buildings.

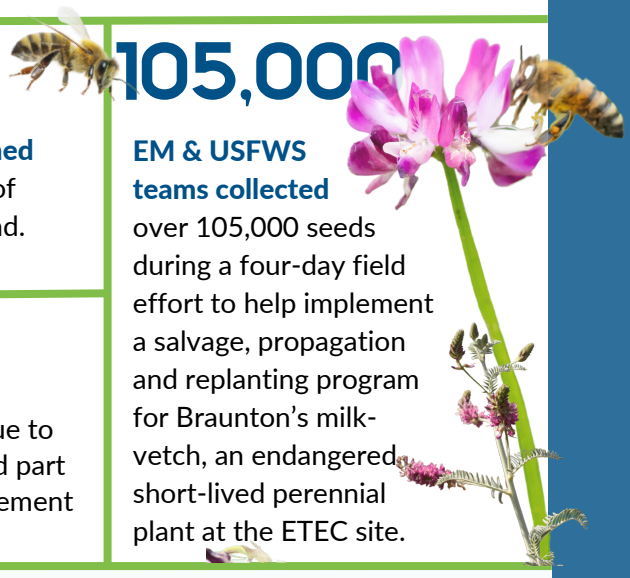
>270

structures were demolished at ETEC over the course of site operations and beyond.

15,000+ gallons

of contaminated groundwater removed; part due to successful interim groundwater remediation, and part due to efforts to ensure the site is ready to implement the proposed corrective measures.

105,000



EM & USFWS teams collected over 105,000 seeds during a four-day field effort to help implement a salvage, propagation and replanting program for Braunton's milk-vetch, an endangered short-lived perennial plant at the ETEC site.

10,000

samples gathered during soil characterization studies to evaluate site cleanup alternatives.

In 2006

groundwater monitoring began and is ongoing.

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